

REMARKS

By the foregoing amendments to the specification, a cross-reference to the parent international application has been provided and the claims have been amended to better conform to U.S. practice and to omit multiple dependencies.

Claims 14 and 15 have been added. Support for claims 14 and 15 is found in claim 8 as originally-filed (i.e., prior to this preliminary amendment).

The filing fee has been calculated based on the claims as amended above.

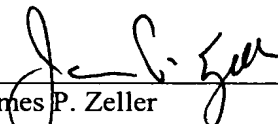
No new matter has been added.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Page 1 immediately following the title, please insert the following heading and paragraph:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This is the U.S. national phase of International Application No. PCT/EP99/09289 filed November 30, 1999, the entire disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference.

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-13, as follows:

1. (Amended) A topical preparation [which comprises, as essential constituent,] comprising at least one biotechnologically obtained, water-insoluble, linear poly- α -glucan.
2. (Amended) The topical preparation [as claimed in] of claim 1, wherein the poly- α -glucan has a degree of branching of at most 8%.
3. (Amended) The topical [[lacuna] as claimed in] preparation of claim 2, wherein the poly- α -glucan has a degree of branching of less than 4 % in the 6-position, and a degree of branching of at most 2% in the other positions.
4. (Amended) The topical [[lacuna] as claimed in any of the preceding claims] preparation of claim 1, wherein the poly- α -glucan has a degree of branching of less than 0.5% in the 6-position.

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5. (Amended) The topical preparation [as claimed in any of the preceding claims] of claim 1, wherein the poly- α -glucan is poly-1,4- α -D-glucan.
6. (Amended) The topical [[lacuna] as claimed in any of the preceding claims] preparation of claim 1, wherein the poly- α -glucan [in the topical preparation] is present in an amount of [from approximately] about 0.5 to [approximately] about 80% by weight, based on the total weight of the topical preparation.
7. (Amended) The topical preparation [as claimed in any of the preceding claims] of claim 1, wherein the [at least one water-insoluble linear] poly- α -glucan has been obtained biocatalytically.
8. (Amended) The topical preparation [as claimed in any of the preceding claims] of claim 1, wherein the topical preparation is a cosmetic composition [, such as bodycare composition or a decorative cosmetic].
9. (Amended) The topical preparation [as claimed in any] of [claims] claim 1 [to 7], wherein the topical preparation is a human or veterinary medical preparation for external application.
10. (Amended) The topical preparation [as claimed in any of the preceding claims] of claim 1, wherein the topical preparation is [chosen] selected from the group consisting of creams, compact creams, lotions, milks, masks, powders, ointments, ointment bases and soaps.

11. (Amended) The topical preparation [as claimed in] of claim 10, wherein the topical preparation is [for decorative cosmetics and is chosen] selected from the group consisting of creams, powders [or] and ointment bases for make-up.

12. (Amended) The topical preparation [as claimed in] of claim 11, wherein the make-up is blusher, eye shadow or lipstick.

13. (Amended) [The use of] A biotechnologically obtained, water-insoluble, linear poly- α -glucan [in a topical preparation].

Please add new claims 14 and 15 as follows:

14. (New) The topical preparation of claim 8, wherein the cosmetic composition is a bodycare composition.

15. (New) The topical preparation of claim 8, wherein the cosmetic composition is a decorative cosmetic.